

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 02603 281938Z

12

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 ACDA-19 EUR-25 DRC-01 /174 W

----- 127924

R 281608Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1953

INFO USCINCSO

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 2603

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR PFOR CO

SUBJ: NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT
BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU

1. THERE ARE NO ALLIANCES OR ALIGNMENTS THAT WOULD INFLUENCE
COLOMBIAN ACTIONS IN REGARD TO A CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU.

2. COLOMBIAN ARMS ACQUISITIONS ARE UNLIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY
THE CHILEAN/PERUVIAN SITUATION. COLOMBIA DOES NOT ARM AGAINST
PERU. OF THE FIVE NATIONS BORDERING THE COUNTRY, ONLY VENEZUELA
IS ARMED AGAINST TO ANY EXTENT. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE, THE
COLOMBIAN MILITARY MAY PLAN A "PORCUPINE" DEFENSE AGAINST BRAZIL.
ECUADOR, WITH WHOM COLOMBIA SHARES A RELATIVELY POPULOUS BORDER
REGION, COULD ENTER THE ARMS EQUATION IF THE GOE WERE TO SPEND
A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF ITS OIL REVENUES ON ARMS PURCHASES.

3. COLOMBIAN ARMS ACQUISITIONS HAVE BEEN LIMITED AND PROBABLY
WILL REMAIN SO. THE MOST RECENT ACQUISITIONS OF ANY SIGNIFICANCE
HAVE BEEN THE PURCHASE OF 18 MIRAGE AIRCRAFT, 54 ARMORED PER-
SONNEL CARRIERS AND A LIMITED AMOUNT OF NAVAL CRAFT. WHILE
RECENT STRESS HAS BEEN ON COUNTER-INSURGENCY OPERATIONS, THE
COLOMBIAN MILITARY NOW FEEL THAT INSURGENTS ARE LESS OF A FACTOR
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 02603 281938Z

AND WISH TO DIRECT THEIR EFFORTS TOWARD CONVENTIONAL FORCES

TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT. THE PRIORITIES ACCORDED CIVILIAN NEEDS, HOWEVER, AND THE LACK OF ANY SERIOUS PERCEIVED THREAT RULE OUT ANY MAJOR ACQUISITIONS OF ARMAMENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

4. THE ITEMS THAT FOLLOW ARE KEYED TO THE QUESTIONS IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL:

A) COLOMBIA MAINTAINS GOOD RELATIONS WITH BOTH CHILE AND PERU. ALL THREE, AS MEMBERS OF THE ANDEAN PACT, ARE COMMITTED TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF GREATER ECONOMIC COOPERATION. IN ADDITION, COLOMBIA AND PERU HAVE AGREED TO WORK TOGETHER ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMAZON REGION, THE ONLY AREA IN WHICH THEY SHARE A COMMON BOUNDARY. ALTHOUGH PERU'S ATTEMPT TO ANNEX THE AMAZON REGION LED TO ARMED CONFLICT IN 1932-33, THERE IS NO SIGNIFICANT RESIDUE OF ILL FEELING BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. THE REPLACEMENT OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT IN CHILE IS SEEN HERE AS A STEP THAT PRECLUDED THE POSSIBILITY OF DIFFICULTIES IN THE COLOMBIAN-CHILEAN RELATIONSHIP.

B) THE PERUVIAN ACQUISITION OF SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT HAS NOT HAD ANY NOTICEABLE EFFECTS ON EITHER MILITARY POLITICAL ATTITUDES IN COLOMBIA. WHILE THE MOVE WAS PROBABLY NOT WELCOMED, NEITHER MILITARY NOR POLITICAL FIGURES HAVE YET MADE ANY COMMENT ON THE MATTER.

C) AT PRESENT THERE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE ANY FEAR OF A DEVELOPING ARMS RACE. WERE THE SOVIET ROLE IN PERU TO INCREASE MARKEDLY BEYOND ITS PRESENT STATUS, HOWEVER, THERE WOULD VERY PROBABLY BE CONCERN ON THE PART OF THE COLOMBIAN PUBLIC AND GOVERNMENT. THERE ARE NO CURRENT DOMESTIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT HAVE A BEARING ON THE CHILEAN/PERUVIAN RELATIONSHIP NOR IS THIRD WORLD PRESSURE A FACTOR.

D) IN THE EVENT OF WORSENEDED RELATIONS OR A CHILEAN/PERUVIAN CONFRONTATION, WE BELIEVE THAT COLOMBIA WOULD SEEK TO ASSIST IN BRINGING THE MATTER TO MEDIATION, MOST LIKELY THROUGH OAS AUSPICES. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT COLOMBIA WOULD SUPPORT ONE PARTY AGAINST ANOTHER. IT IS ALSO UNLIKELY THAT COLOMBIA WOULD TAKE ANY MILITARY MOVES OR FEEL COMPELLED TO MAKE SUBSTANTIAL ARMS ACQUISITIONS. COLOMBIA WOULD ATTEMPT TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONS
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 02603 281938Z

WITH BOTH NATIONS AND OFFER ALL FEASIBLE GOOD OFFICES TOWARD THE RESOLUTION OF ANY DISPUTE.
VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY PROCUREMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS, MILITARY PLANS, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITI ON
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BOGOTA02603
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740068-0822
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974039/aaaaahto.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by elyme>; APPROVED <08 JAN 2003 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL FOR CONFLICT BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU
TAGS: MARR, PFOR, CO, CI, PE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005